

Ballard to Downtown Seattle

OPEN HOUSE

March 12, 2013
Ballard High School



Agenda

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Open House
5:45 p.m.	Opening remarks
7:00 p.m.	Meeting adjourned

Visit stations around the room to:

- Learn about the study's background, goals and timeline
- Talk with the technical team about the study area
- Participate in an interactive mapping activity
- Provide your input

WELCOME!

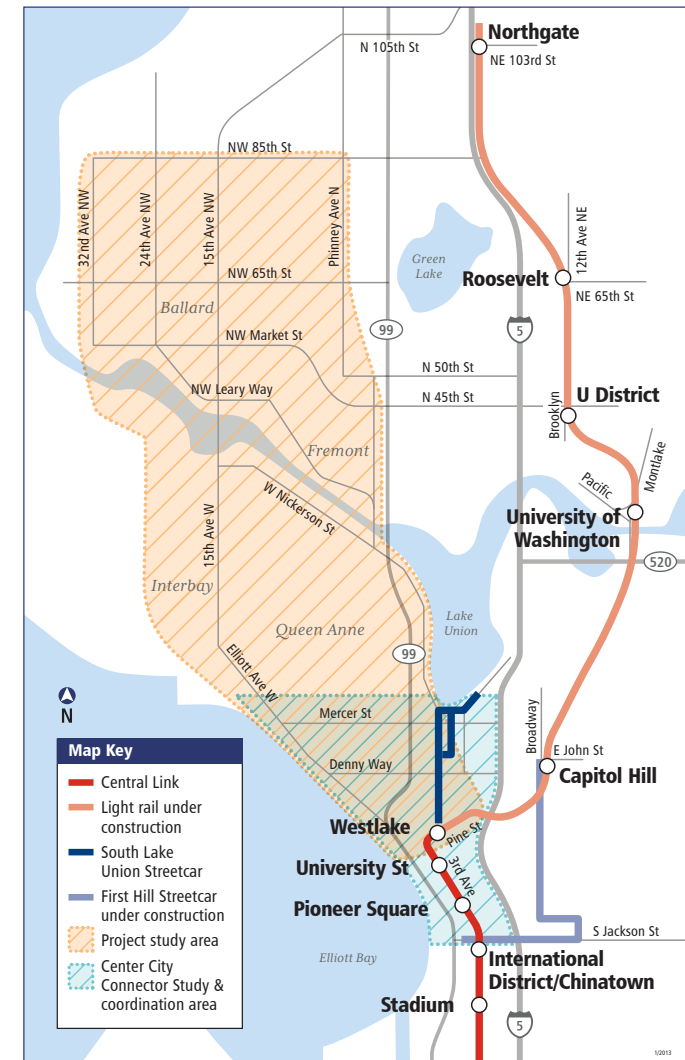
Thank you for joining us at the first open house for the Ballard to Downtown Seattle Transit Expansion Study.

Sound Transit and the City of Seattle are partnering on a study of possible rail transit improvements between Ballard and downtown Seattle. By partnering and increasing efficiencies, Sound Transit and the City of Seattle are saving planning dollars during this project's development phase.

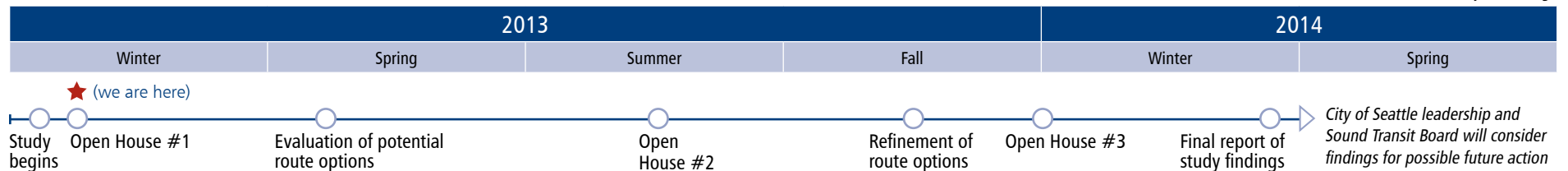
While construction of any potential future transit extensions would be subject to Sound Transit and City policy decisions and identification of funding sources, it is important that planning in this corridor accurately reflect travel patterns made by area residents and businesses. Your input will help the project team evaluate goals and objectives and identify potential route options to study between Ballard and downtown Seattle.

In coordination with a comprehensive public involvement process throughout the study process, the following activities will be completed in the Ballard to downtown Seattle study:

1. Identify project goals and objectives
2. Identify possible alignments between Ballard and downtown Seattle
3. Evaluate and refine potential light rail and rapid streetcar alignments and station locations
4. Develop general ridership estimates and cost estimates
5. Summarize and document findings
6. Present findings to the City of Seattle leadership and Sound Transit Board for possible future action



Study Activities



Sound Transit's Long Range Plan

Sound Transit's Long Range Plan, adopted in 2005, identifies a future rail corridor operating primarily in an exclusive right of way between downtown Seattle and Ballard that can provide a high level of passenger capacity, speed and service frequency. This study supports the Sound Transit Board of Directors in updating the Regional Transit Long Range Plan. Based on public input received throughout the study, the Board could consider options to include alternatives from this study in further high capacity transit corridor planning or in an update to the Long Range Plan.

City of Seattle's Transit Master Plan

In April 2012, the Seattle City Council adopted the Transit Master Plan (TMP), which focuses on using transit to connect communities in the City of Seattle. The TMP identified five corridors for investment and the Ballard to downtown Seattle corridor will be the first one studied. The TMP also identified this as a rail corridor.



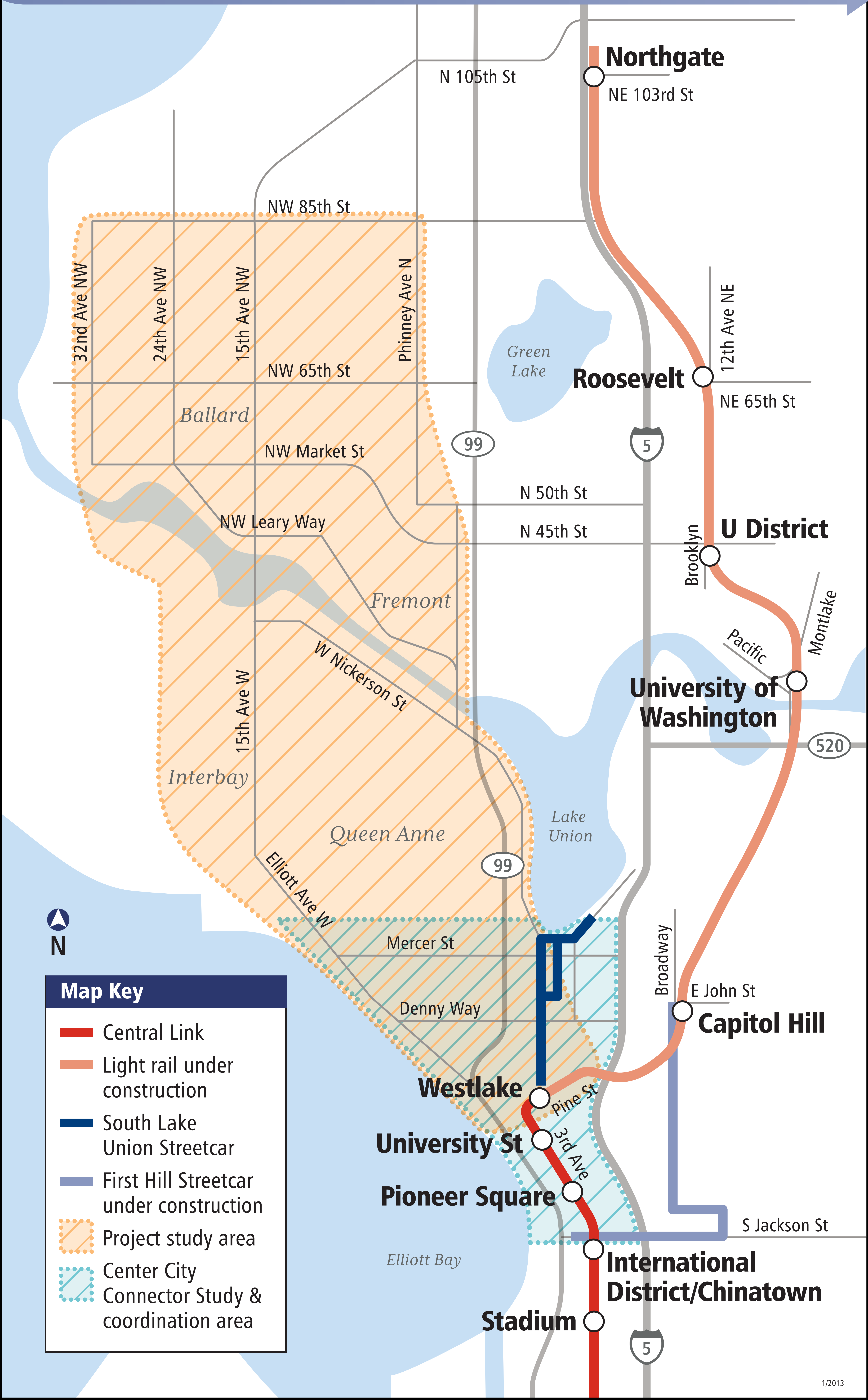
Ballard to Downtown Seattle

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Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback!

Project Study Area

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY



Transit Master Plan Priority Corridors

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY



ST2 HCT Planning Corridor Map (2012)

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY

Regional light rail spine

High capacity transit corridors

- 1 Lynnwood to the Southwest Everett Industrial Center and to Everett
- 2 Overlake Transit Center area of Redmond to Downtown Redmond
- 3 South Bellevue to Issaquah
- 4 Redondo/Star Lake area near Federal Way to Tacoma
- 5 Redmond to Kirkland and on to the University District
- 6A Ballard to Downtown Seattle
- 6B Ballard to University District
- 7 Renton to Tukwila, Sea-Tac and on to Burien
- 8 Downtown Seattle to West Seattle and on to Burien

Bus rapid transit corridor

- 9 I-405 corridor



Transit Modes

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY

Light Rail

- An electric railway powered by an overhead power source
- Operates principally in its own right-of-way on surface streets, in tunnels or on elevated tracks
- Capacity can be expanded to meet varying demand
- Additional cars can be coupled to increase capacity
- Provides fast connections with limited stops



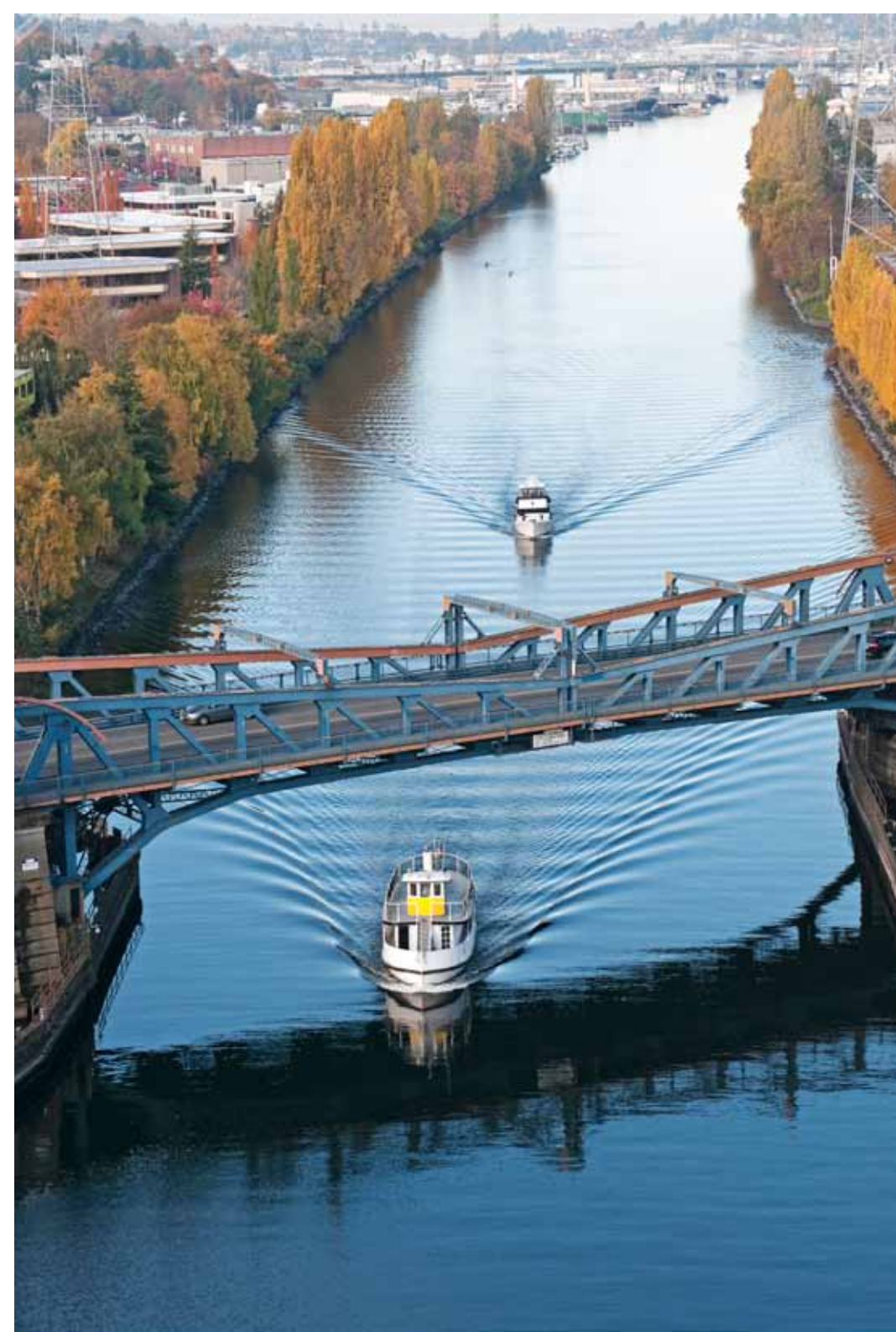
Rapid Streetcar

- Features articulated or coupled vehicles
- An electric railway powered by an overhead power source
- Operates on surface streets, using dedicated right-of-way where conditions allow
- Has wide spacing between stops
- Uses high levels of priority treatments to gain advantage over traffic



Factors to Keep in Mind

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY

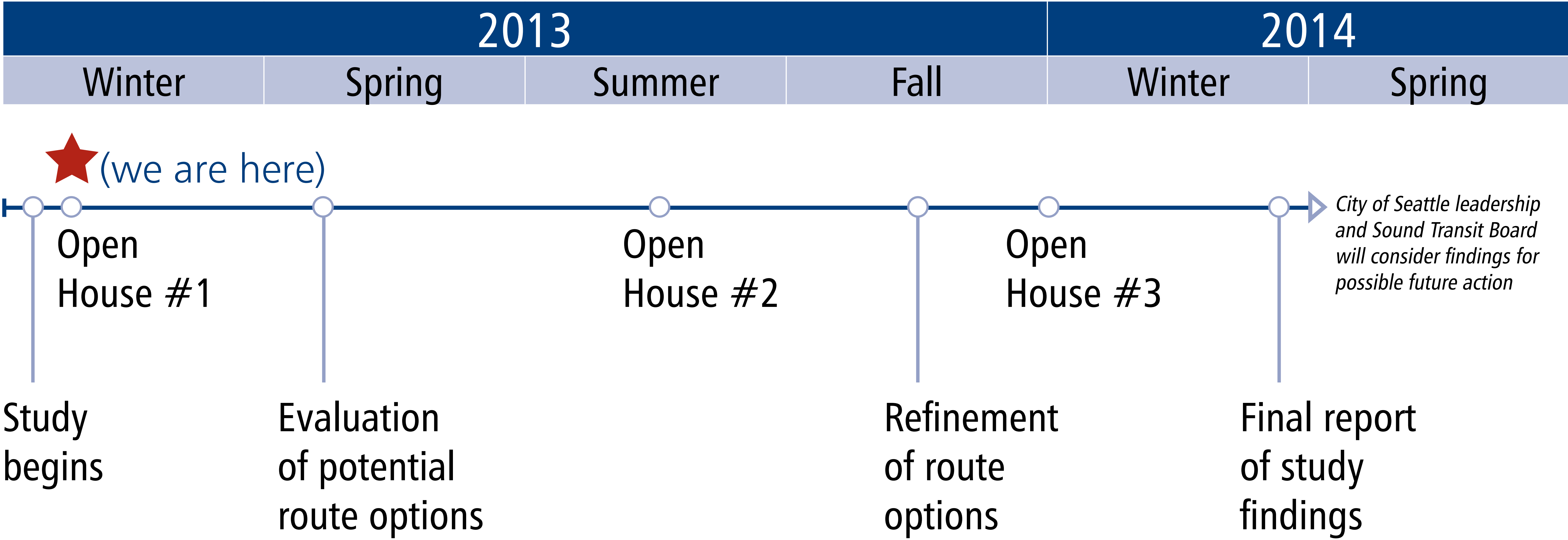


Considerations, constraints and opportunities include:

- Need to identify funding sources to design, build and operate
- Physical limitations (e.g. Queen Anne Hill)
- Maintenance and storage facility would likely be needed to support rail operations
- Crossing the Ship Canal – use of existing bridge crossings, or potential new water crossing
- Transit connections in Downtown Seattle
- Opportunity to connect growing residential and commercial areas and Downtown core

Study Timeline and Process

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY



*Schedule is subject to change.

Goals and Objectives

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY

Please rate the following:

Goal/objective	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Improve connection to the regional transit system	3	10	10	15
Improve mobility options for residents and businesses between Ballard and downtown Seattle	1	2	10	15
Increase transit ridership by providing services that are reliable, frequent, and efficient	1	10	15	15
Preserve and enhance the environment	0	10	15	15
Provide equitable access for residents and businesses	1	10	15	15
Support sustainable urban growth	0	10	15	15
Efficient use of public funding	0	10	15	15

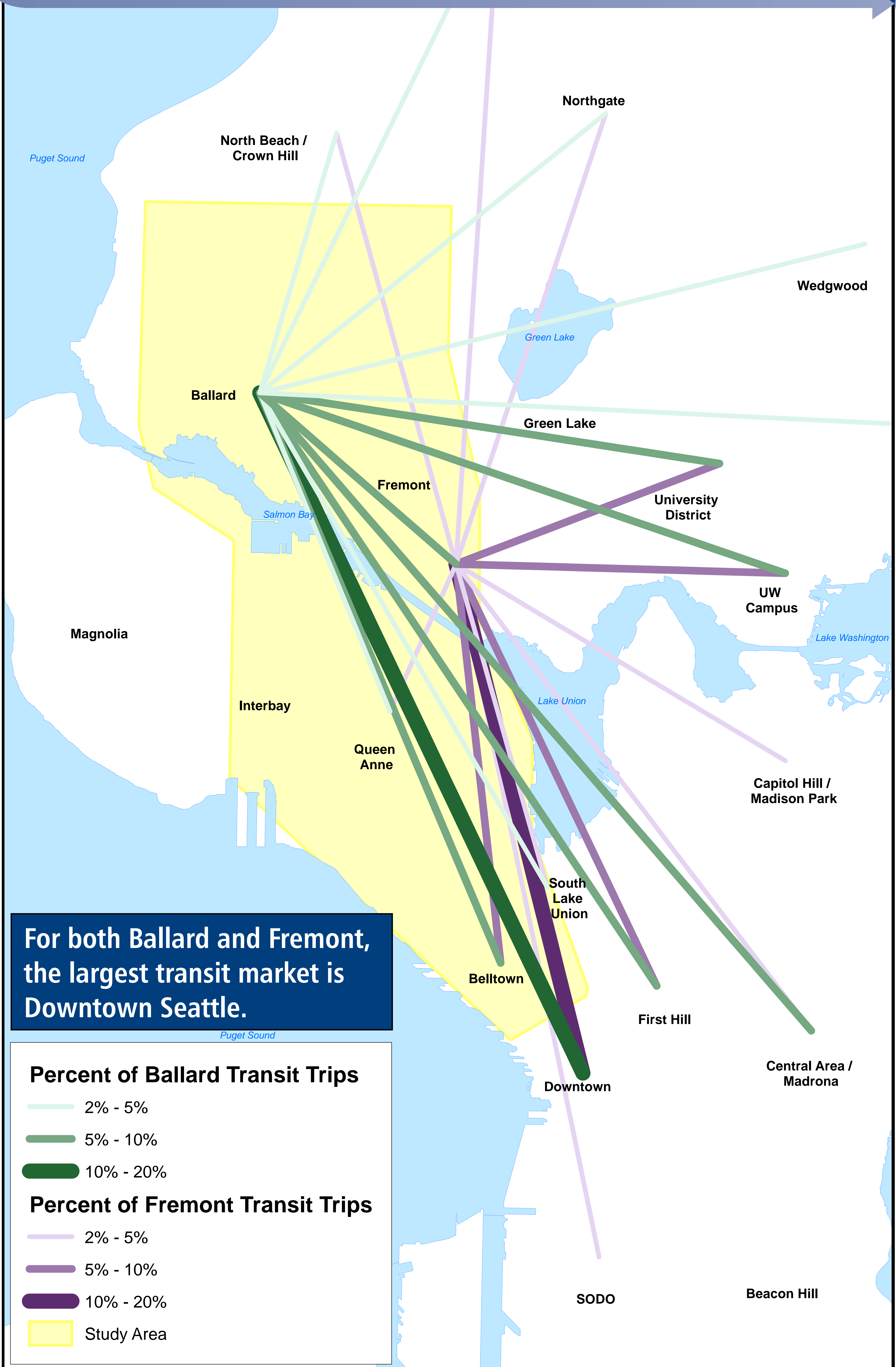
SOUNDTRANSIT

SDOT

soundtransit.org/ballardstudy

Daily Transit Trips

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY



0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Source: ST Ridership Forecasting Model, 2013

Note: Pre-Fall 2012 Service Change

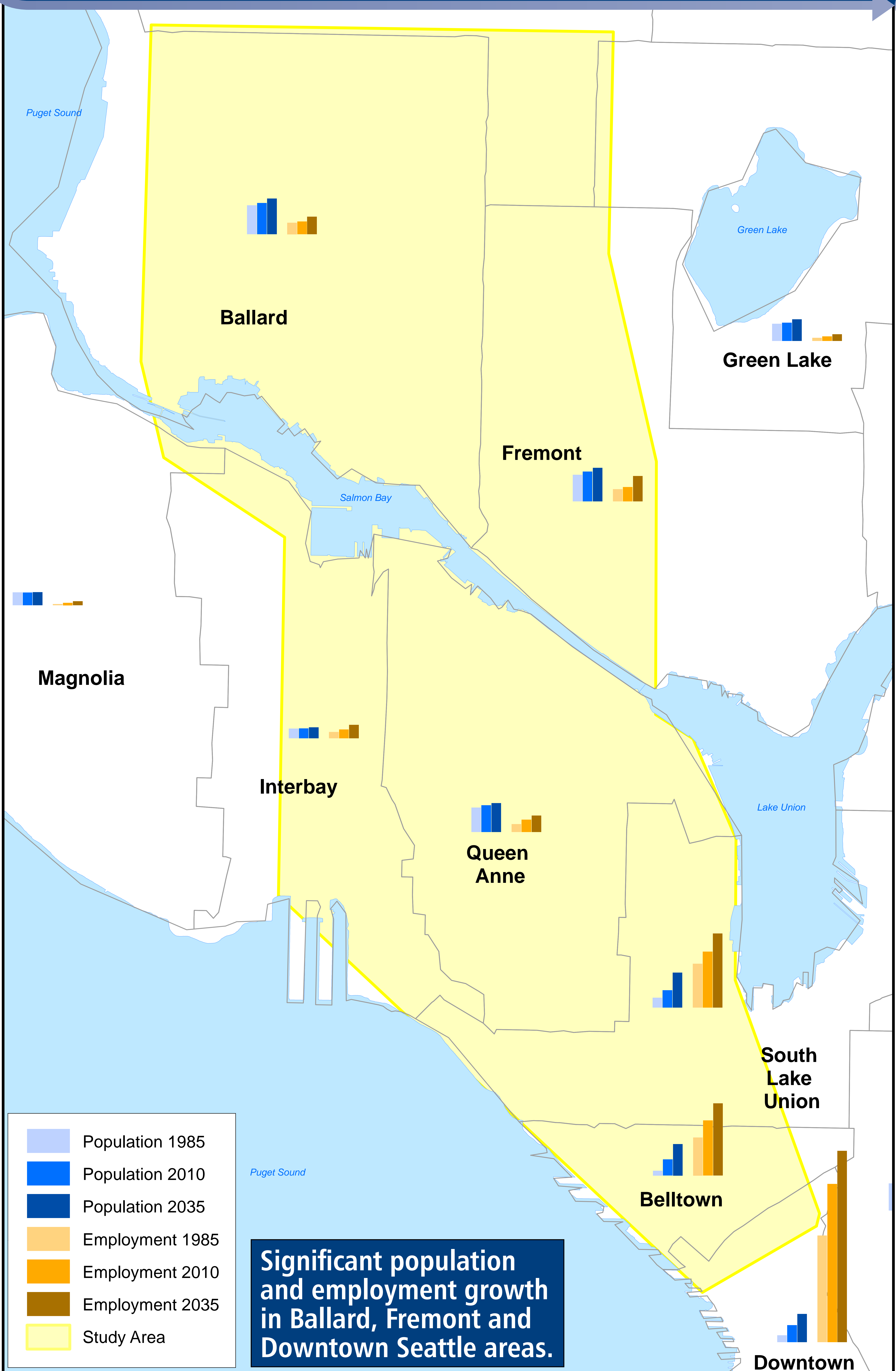
Existing Land Use

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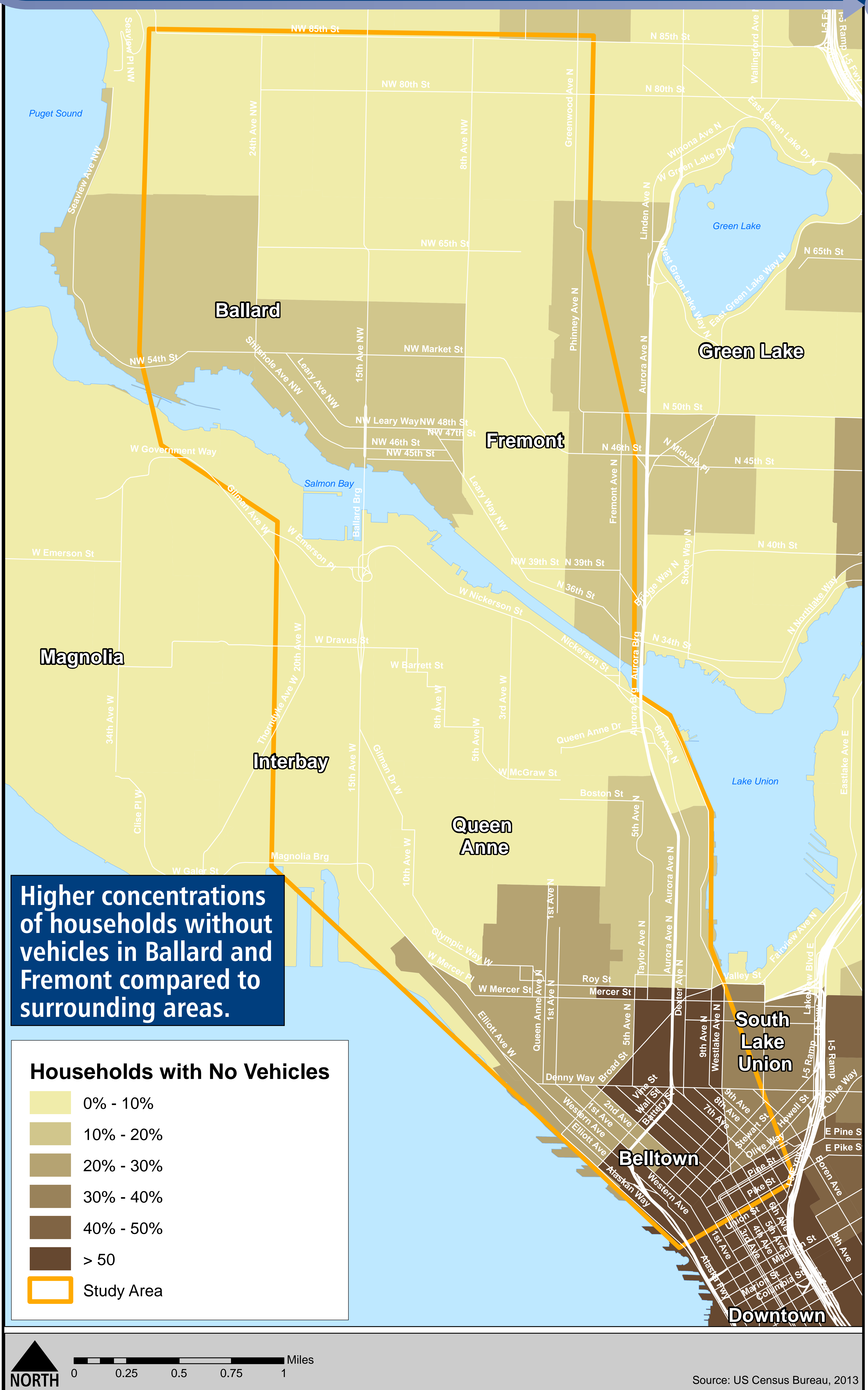
Population and Employment

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY



Vehicle Ownership by Household

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY

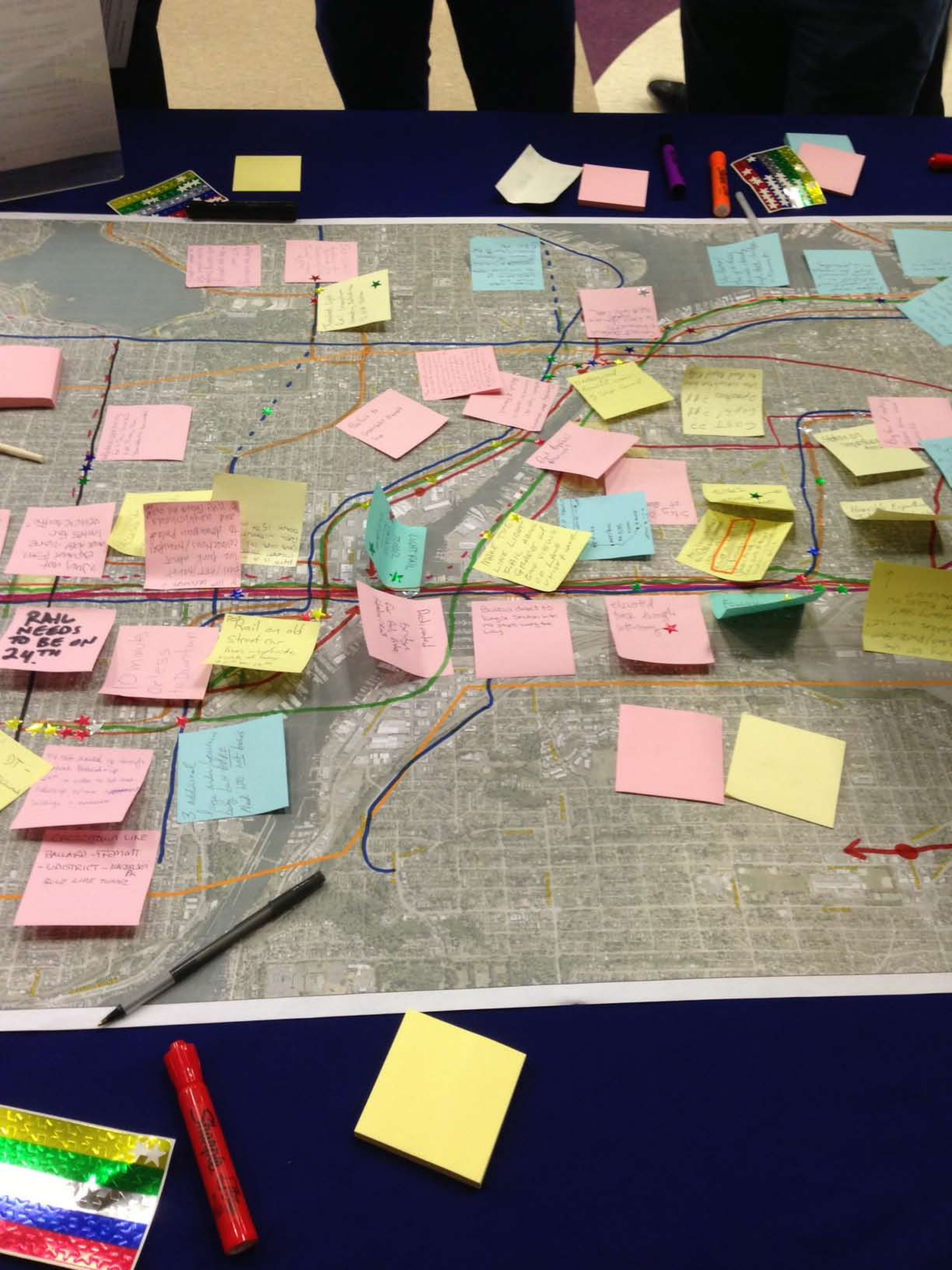


PM Peak Period Congestion

BALLARD TO DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY







RAIL
NEEDS
TO BE ON
24TH

10 minutes
or less
to downtown

Rail on old
street car
tracks - upgrade
with all new
cars

Don't need
for the
future

Station direct to
Kaiser Center with
no stops in between

elevated
best design
solution

10 min
to downtown
or less

3 stations
large platform
large fare hall
large 100% retail base

RAIL LINE
BALDWIN - STEWART
- DISTRICT - MARSH
- 24TH LINE TUNNEL